

Access

Library
Pets

November



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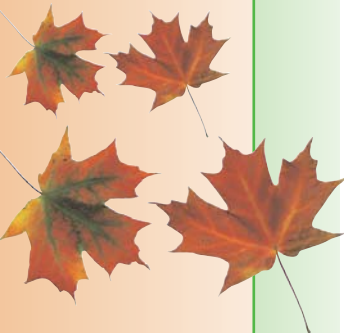
In This Issue:

QSAC
Moves Forward
page 3

Animals in the
Library
page 8

Worldcat
page 12

In



Library Services and Technology Act Fiscal Year 2003 Funding Areas Announced

by Jolee Hamlin, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan is pleased to announce the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) FY 2003 funding areas. The LSTA Goals for Michigan are articulated in *Library Services and Technology Act Five Year Plan for Michigan, October 1, 2002 – September 30, 2007*, which is available at the Library of Michigan's Web site:

Goal 1: *Provide all Michigan residents statewide access to the widest possible range of information, library resources and services to advance and enhance their lives as workers, students, citizens, family members and lifelong learners.*

Goal 2: *Increase equity of information access and library service by providing special assistance to areas of the state where library services are inadequate (underserved rural and urban communities), and to libraries that are working to provide service to persons having difficulty using a library.*

Goal 3: *Foster innovation and technical improvements in information services by funding leading edge projects in libraries that meet and anticipate constantly changing needs for library services and information needs of Michigan's residents.*

These goals provide a basis for the continued support of statewide projects such as the Michigan eLibrary (MeL). The LSTA Fiscal Year 2003 specific funding areas are as follows:

Collaboration and Partnership

This funding area is intended to assist Michigan libraries in pioneering innovative services with collaborative partners. Grants may be awarded to meet the increased demand for information and library services by identifying and encouraging resource sharing and partnership.

ATLAS Preparedness

The Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide (ATLAS) has been working with the Library of Michigan to design a statewide information delivery service that will link all Michigan residents to the information they need, when they need it, where they need it, and in the format they desire. Components of the system will include electronic delivery of full-text and digitized resources, as well as physical delivery of those items not yet available electronically.

The ATLAS Preparedness funding area is meant to assist libraries in Michigan to move toward the goal of participating in the new statewide resource sharing system. The resource sharing system will be based on standards-compliant

Continued on Page 2



Notes from the State Librarian

Like several other libraries in Michigan, the East Lansing Public Library is sponsoring a "One Book, One Community" project through mid-November. East Lansing has taken the program a step further by partnering with Michigan State University to ensure a truly community-wide experience!

The book they've chosen is Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*. I took part in a recent celebrity book reading and took the podium just before a well-known MSU football player, who I'm pretty sure was the event's main draw!

In any case, having never been part of such a reading, I was struck by the unique "library" feel of the event, and I was proud to play my part. We are all guilty at some point of taking for granted the very freedoms we've chosen to defend. Not all countries in the world would allow people to stand up in a public place and read excerpts from a book, especially a controversial tome about book burning and censorship of thought!

Fahrenheit 451 — which by the way is also the temperature at which paper burns — is a terrifying book about the restrictions on freedom of speech. Penned in 1953, it was Bradbury's response to the anti-intellectualism of Germany's Nazi party and to the intellectually oppressive political climate of the 1950's.

Unfortunately, the topic still resonates today. To me, the book reading was a timely reminder of the importance of freedom of speech and the role that libraries play in preserving that freedom. Although sometimes controversial, one of the tenets of the ALA Library Bill of Rights cuts right to the core: "Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation."

It's clear to me that we in the library community have a responsibility to keep on doing what we do best: provide access to information in all its formats. The alternative is more frightening than anything we've seen in fiction.

Christie

Continued from page 1

integrated library systems. Grants in this area will help libraries acquire or participate in automated systems that function with specific standards and protocols.

Grant proposals will be accepted in the following areas:

- Upgrade of Shared Integrated Library System (ILS);
- Migration from Non-Compliant to Compliant Shared ILS;
- New Participation in Shared ILS by Non-Automated Library; and
- Cooperatives Assisting Member Libraries

Incentive Mini-grants for Digitization

One goal of the ATLAS project is to prepare libraries to begin statewide digitization efforts. Incentive mini-grants of \$1500 are being offered to libraries in support of this goal, so that even the smallest libraries may begin digitization efforts. A simplified grant application form is available for this funding area. These grant funds will allow libraries to participate in "Making of Modern Michigan" (<http://mmm.lib.msu.edu>), a project that will assist in the identification and digitization of materials relating to 19th and 20th century Michigan history.

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

During November 2002, Grant Writing Workshops will be held throughout the state to assist library staff in developing a successful grant application. Locations and dates are as follows:

- Library of Michigan, Lansing
November 7, 2002
- Herrick District Library, Holland
November 8, 2002
- Cadillac-Wexford County Public Library, Cadillac
November 12, 2002
- Peter White Public Library, Marquette
November 14, 2002
- Ypsilanti District Library, Ypsilanti
November 18, 2002
- Public Libraries of Saginaw, Saginaw
November 19, 2002
- Roseville Public Library, Roseville
November 20, 2002

These workshops will be full-day, hands-on events with group exercises. Further description is available at www.michigan.gov/hal.

FY 2003 LSTA PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

The *FY 2003 Library Services and Technology Act Grant Program Handbook* and the *LSTA Five-Year Plan for Michigan, October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2007* are now available in print and on our website at

<http://www.libraryofmichigan.org/lsta/lsta.html>. To

request print copies of these publications, please send an email to librarypublications@michigan.gov.

Include your name, the name of your library/organization, a complete mailing address, and an indication of which items that you want sent. These publications also will be available at the Grant Writing Workshop.

TIMELINE

Other important dates for the FY 2003 LSTA Grant Program include:

Applications Due January 31, 2003

Peer Reviewers Meet February/March 2003

Award Announcements April 2003

Grant Administration

Workshops April/May 2003

If you have any questions on the FY 2003 LSTA program, please contact Jolee Hamlin at (517) 241-0021 or email at jhamlin@michigan.gov.

QSAC Moves Forward

by Martha McKee, QSAC Project Coordinator

The search for quality guidelines for Michigan's public libraries entered a new phase with the second meeting of the Quality Services Advisory Committee (QSAC), held at the Library of Michigan in August.

The heart of the meeting was discussion of the quality measures received from the six QSAC subcommittees and how they will affect Michigan's public libraries.

QSAC's first meeting, held in February 2002, divided library service into six areas: Personnel, Governance, Services, Technology, Facilities and Equipment and Public Relations. More than 50 volunteers spent six months developing quality measures, each in their specific area of interest.

Several recurring questions arose in each subcommittee as they deliberated. The following issues led the meeting and also arose during the Library of Michigan's 2002 Road Show.

Are the quality measures linked to State Aid?

Quality measures would not be tied to current levels of state aid; however, they will become part of the Public Library Funding Initiative Group (PLFIG) process. PLFIG will use them to demonstrate the levels of funding needed to bring Michigan's public libraries into compliance with the three levels of library service. When we achieve higher levels of state funding in Michigan, implementation may become necessary, with the Library of Michigan checking compliance on a random, spot-check basis.

If the quality measures are not linked to State Aid, why should a library use them?

Quality measures can be used now to educate staff, trustees, local authorities and state legislators. They can show your community what you have achieved with your current funding and what could be possible if that funding were increased. The measures can be used as part of strategic planning, as examples of where and how your library can grow and improve. They are an advocacy tool for every library, regardless of size or funding level.

When will the quality measures be put into action?

State Librarian Christie Brandau wants to see the measures implemented by 2003 on a voluntary basis. She sees the next two years as our getting-acquainted period, with revision based on actual use in the field. From then on, the benchmarks will need to be reviewed every three years or so to accommodate changing state activities, such as statewide interlibrary loan.

What about the words Bronze, Silver and Gold?

In response to negative feedback from the library community, QSAC dropped the Bronze, Silver and Gold designations. Essential, Enhanced and Excellent will be the terms used for the three service levels.

Essential Services are the basics of all library service. They are relatively low-cost standards that every library can and should achieve. They are helpful to libraries starting out and a review for those who are established. **Enhanced Services** are more of a stretch to achieve. They may require more funding than the previous level and start where the Essential Services leave off. **Excellent Services** call for the highest level of service obtainable. They are a stretch for any library and require funding and commitment to superb service at every level.

Will libraries receive anything for achieving Essential, Enhanced or Excellent levels of service?

When a library achieves any of the three levels, it will receive a certificate of achievement from the Library of Michigan. Sample press releases will accompany the award. QSAC envisions the certi-

cates for Essential, Enhanced and Excellent service will be valid for more than one year, probably three.

Does a library have to achieve every single measure at each level?

No. There will be a certain number of core measures that must be achieved. The requirements for additional benchmarks will be from 90% to 95%, with a final decision to be made after editing is completed. This system will allow for local variance and choice, while still maintaining certain benchmarks necessary for Essential, Enhanced and Excellent service.

Does your library have to be rich to achieve an Excellent certificate?

Not necessarily. Some measures are costly to implement, but QSAC encourages libraries to use them as examples to leverage more local funding. Some of the measures may best be achieved at the library cooperative level. A few of the measures, such as hours open, are based on class size, but most apply to all size libraries.

How will libraries start using the measures? Can we get any help from the Library of Michigan?

Yes, Martha McKee, QSAC project coordinator, will be available to speak to cooperative advisory councils, trustee groups, library boards and other library groups throughout 2003. Call or email her at the numbers listed below for more information.

What is QSAC doing now?

At present, we have too many guidelines. The six subcommittees together produced over 400 quality measures! QSAC is editing this number down to 100-120 core measures. Some of the measures will be moved to appendices to serve as helpful guidelines for building projects, personnel manuals and policy guidelines.

I wasn't on any of the QSAC committees. How can I comment on what they achieved?

As soon as they are edited, the quality measures will be mailed to every public library director. They will also be posted on our Web site: www.plfig.org/qsac-committee.htm. QSAC will welcome your criticisms, suggestions for improvement and congratulations.

Questions, concerns, comments? Please send them to Martha McKee at mmckee@michigan.gov or call Martha at (517) 241-2697.

LearnATest - Access and Training

by Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Administrator, Library of Michigan

Since October 1, 2002, all Michigan residents and libraries have had access to LearnATest as one of the Michigan eLibrary databases. LearnATest is the leading source for online test preparation materials and interactive practice exams.

This resource is available for use in the library through IP recognition or by remote access through the MeL driver's license authentication. We have pre-registered all libraries on our current IP list. If you are able to get to this database now, you don't need to do anything more. If your library cannot connect via mel.org using the "log on in your library" link, call Kelly Bayee at MLC at 800-530-9019, ext. 20, or send an e-mail to her at bayeeek@mlcnet.org. Kelly can also assist you in setting up access via your own library Web page.

LearnATest



Michigan Union List

On December 1, 2002, SPAN will be removed from the Michigan eLibrary, MeL. Union list information is now accessible through FirstSearch, OCLC UnionLists. Since this database is part of MeL and is updated twice a year, the Michigan Union List database (SPAN) will no longer be updated. Libraries will have access to more current information by using FirstSearch. For more details on accessing OCLC UnionLists, go to <http://accessmichigan.org/spanreplaced.htm>.

Road Trip

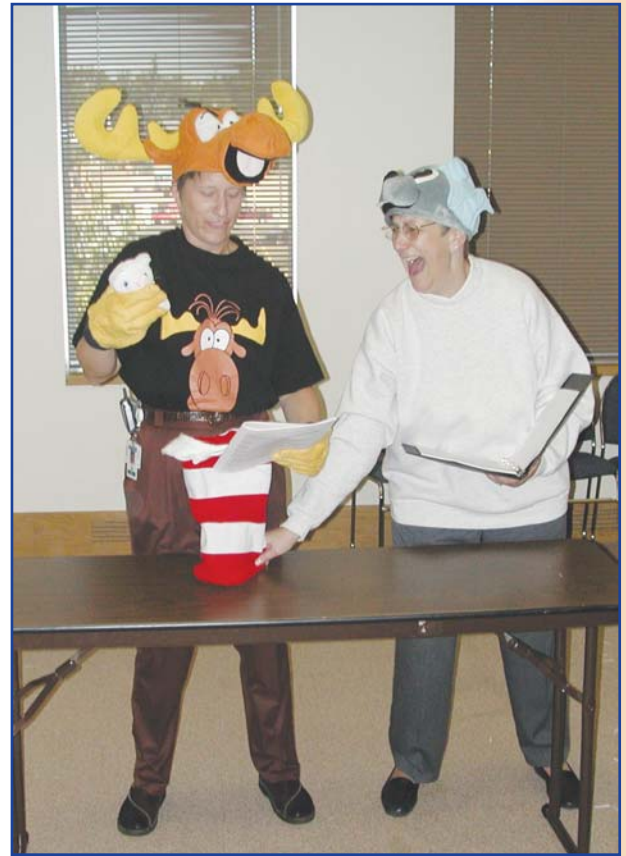
The popular *On the Road with the Library of Michigan and Friends* toured the state in September, with stops in Lansing, Houghton Lake, Kalamazoo, Marquette and Canton. The program's entertaining "Fractured Fairy Tales" provided information and updates on issues affecting Michigan libraries. Here, a few highlights of *On the Road* caught on camera.



Left to right: Dorothy (Christie Brandau) with Toto, Goldilocks (Liz Nordin, Hesperia Community Library), the Mighty Woodsman (Randy Dykhuis, MLC), Cinderella (Eileen Palmer, TLN) and Glenda, the good witch (Becky Cawley) in "The Wizard of LOZ" (LOZ, where Libraries are strong, money is plentiful and everyone shares and plays nice).



Left to right: Melville the Wizard (Stephen Kershner), Samwise Acre (Ed Willoughby) and Fodor Baggins (Molly Dwyer) in "Quest of the Ring"



Bullwinkle (Sheryl Mase, left) and Rocky (Jo Budler) talk about LearnATest, a new service being added to the MeL databases.



The Making of Modern Michigan

by Ruth Ann Jones, Assistant Head of the Digital & Multimedia Center, MSU Libraries

The Institute for Museum and Library Services has awarded \$486,016 to “The Making of Modern Michigan,” a two-year project to digitize primary resources on Michigan history. The resulting online collection will include contributions from libraries all over the state and will be a valuable resource for both students and adults learning about Michigan history. It will be freely accessible to anyone with access to a Web browser through MeL, the Michigan eLibrary.

In addition to making materials on Michigan history more easily available, the project will empower a wide range of libraries, especially small libraries, to contribute to the digital collection. Library staff will be trained in digitization techniques, copyright issues and metadata standards and will have access to digitization equipment and technical assistance in regional digitization centers located throughout the state. Incentive LSTA grants, administered by the Library of Michigan, will be provided to assist libraries with limited staff to participate.

“The Making of Modern Michigan” is a project of ATLAS, the Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide, an initiative of the Library of Michigan. Michigan State University serves as the administrative host for the project, in cooperation with the Library of Michigan, the Michigan Library Consortium, and seven regional digitization centers.

The project partners include: Michigan State University Libraries, Digital & Multimedia Center; Central Michigan University, Clarke Historical Library; Hiawathaland Library Cooperative; the Library of Michigan; the Michigan Library Consortium; Traverse Area District Library; University of Detroit-Mercy Libraries/Media Services; University of Michigan, Digital Library Production Service; Wayne State University, Digital Library Services; and Western Michigan University Libraries.

The project director is Michael Seadle, Digital Services and Copyright Librarian and Head of the Digital & Multimedia Center at the Michigan State University Libraries. The co-principal investigator is Ruth Ann Jones, Assistant Head of the Digital &

Multimedia Center at the Michigan State University Libraries. The project coordinator is Jeff Trzeciak, Interim Director for Library Computer & Media Services at the Wayne State University Library System. The management team also includes Jo Budler, Deputy State Librarian, and Ruth Dukelow, Associate Director of the Michigan Library Consortium.

“The Making of Modern Michigan” is funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services, an independent federal agency that supports the nation’s museums and libraries.

A Fond Farewell

by Jim Schultz and Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

We would like to take the opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to several departing members of the Library of Michigan family and share some of their reflections on their time at the Library.



Thomas J. Moore, Dean of Libraries for Central Michigan University, has served on the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees for eight years, and his term on the Board is coming to an end. He will continue to serve on the Library of Michigan Foundation Board of Directors. Tom told us about some of the special highlights during his tenure.

Tom said he was fortunate to have served as a member of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees, due to the creativity and professionalism of the Board/Library partnership. One of the projects that he was most proud to be part of as a Board member was AccessMichigan. It had enormous value for all the state and a tremendous benefit to all library users in rural regions. AccessMichigan also set the standard for future projects and called attention to the leadership of the Library of Michigan.

Another highlight that Tom recalls is the Shared Vision conference, an initiative through the Board that brought over 200 librarians together in Lansing. Librarians from all over the state and from every type of library - including public, school, college and special libraries - attended the

conference. The results of this meeting added momentum to advancing library services for everyone.

According to Tom, people cannot be overlooked in the success of the Board during his term. Tom feels privileged to have served his term under two dynamic Library of Michigan directors. The first was George Needham, who worked tirelessly to head up the AccessMichigan project. The second, current State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau, brings a special brand of leadership and vision so needed as libraries throughout the state strive to adapt to new technologies.

Finally, Tom says working on the Board during the reorganization process that resulted in the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries was a welcome challenge. The Board's input resulted in the word, "Libraries" being included in the department's name. This was important to Tom because during his term, the Board came up with many great ideas, but it was the staff of the Library of Michigan that worked hard to see them come to fruition.

Several long-time members of that staff are also departing the Library for retirement at the end of October:

Susan Nearing,

Public Services director, has had a long and varied career at the Library of Michigan. She started in 1978 as the audiovisual library assistant, then transferred to the Law Library and worked as a reference and acquisitions library assistant. Susan obtained an MLS in 1983, returned to the LM Law Library as a reference librarian and was reclassified as legal reference supervisor several years later.

She became assistant director of User Services in 1989 and was reclassified to Director of Public Services in 1990. At that time, the Public Services Division included only the 2nd floor of the LM building (Legislative and State Government Services and Special Collections Services) plus the Escanaba Branch of the State Library. In the years since then, the division's responsibilities have grown to include the Law Library, Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, Stack Management and Services For the Blind and Physically Handicapped. The Escanaba Branch



was closed in the 90's.

Some of the changes Susan has seen in her time at the Library of Michigan include the transition from all manual systems and paper or microform materials to online integrated library management systems, OPACs, Internet, electronic databases, MeL, distance education, computer workstations at every desk, and a multitude of public workstations for patrons (where once there were zero). The Library was in the executive branch with the Department of Education when Susan started in 1978, then moved to the legislature, now back to the executive branch with the development of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries.

Her fondest memories are working directly with clients doing legal research at the Law Library and the cooperative, the positive spirit of the Public Services Division employees who do whatever it takes to get today's clients what they need, the exemplary work of the facilities people who keep the building sparkling and the wonderful security team that works with staff daily.

Susan's plans for retirement include traveling to visit her sister in Houston, her niece in Atlanta and her niece to Hawaii, with more exotic (non-family) travel to follow. She ultimately plans to build a home on a quiet lake in northern Michigan and could build at Beaver Island, where she has a beautiful Lake Michigan waterfront property. All options are open, Susan says, and she could even go back to work after taking some time to enjoy...

Duane Baker has

worked for the Library of Michigan Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for over 30 years. He started in the circulation area and then became a reader advisor. Duane has enjoyed working with the patrons and over the years has gotten to know many of them on a personal basis. The biggest change he has seen in his time at the Library is computer automation – staff used to have to do everything by hand and on paper.

October 31st is Duane's last day at the library. He plans to spend the winter in Florida visiting friends and relatives. He then plans to take classes to receive a license in real estate, which he hopes to do on a part time basis.



Kirsten Lietz

came to the Library of Michigan in 1989 from the University of Michigan Public Health Library. She has been a reference librarian throughout her career at the Library, with various responsibilities from time to time, including that of collection development coordinator.



Reflecting on changes during her time at LM, Kirsten says the development of the Internet and other technology has affected so many aspects of our profession - the way we develop and preserve our collections and allocate our budgets, the way we can provide reference service (virtually!), and we have the technical capabilities to supply patrons with links directly to information or deliver materials to their desktops.

What Kirsten says she will remember most, long after the details fade, are the many wonderful people, teammates, with whom she shared day-to-day tasks, challenges and accomplishments during her years at LM.

Kirsten looks forward to this opportunity to spend more time with family members and loved ones and to have more time for personal interests like music. She plans on continuing to be involved with libraries and knows there will be many avenues for community involvement wherever she is.

Alamar Canfield

has worked for the Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped for many years, and says that now she is just going to enjoy her retirement.



Thank you, Tom, Susan, Duane, Kirsten and Alamar for your hard work and many contributions to the Library of Michigan over the years. Best of luck in your future endeavors!



Guide Dogs

by Andrew Wilson, SBPH Services and Data Analyst, Library of Michigan

Tina is a favorite "patron" of the staff of the Library of Michigan Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Tina is not the typical library visitor - she's a black lab guide dog. Her job is to safely guide her owner throughout downtown Lansing and around the Library.

More than 7,000 Americans use a guide dog. This represents only about two percent of the visually impaired and blind individuals.

Training of guide dogs costs anywhere between \$6,000 and \$30,000. Qualifying individuals with a visual impairment will receive the dog free of charge. Interested individuals must be over the age of 16.

Guide dogs are always at work. When you meet an individual who is using a guide dog, do not pet or feed the dog without first asking permission.

For more information on guide dogs contact:

Leader Dogs for the Blind
P. O. Box 5000
1036 South Rochester Road
Rochester, MI 48308-5000
1-888-777-5332
www.leaderdog.org

Paws With A Cause
4646 South Division
Wayland, MI 49348
1-800-253-PAWS (7297)
www.pawswithacause.org

It's a Jungle in There: Animals in the Library

Compiled by Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

Do you ever feel like it's a real zoo at your library? That's truer at some Michigan libraries than others. In asking for stories about library pets and animal visits, we discovered that some libraries have gone to the dogs, and one has even gone to the frogs. A little bird told us that some libraries

feature our fine-feathered friends, and the cat's out of the bag about library feline friends as well. Here's the truth about cats and dogs:

Helena Township Public Library

by Gay Anderson,
Library Director

The sign on the library door says "Beware of the Bird!" and goes on to explain that a

parakeet flies freely at the library and one should notify staff if they are uncomfortable with the possibility of the bird landing on one's shoulder.

Dickens, the library bird, has lived at the Helena Township Public Library for almost three years and is extremely popular with old and young alike. She usually spends her mornings riding around on children's shoulders, eating the edges of the latest publication on the circulation desk or imitating the sound of the scanner. She joins the librarian for lunch and is especially fond of her salads and fruit. In the afternoon she is quiet and sits in her cage, resting up from all the excitement and talking to herself. She has never been outside the library.

The sign became necessary when Dickens became tame enough to swoop over and land on the shoulder of patrons working at the public access computers. She has certain people that she seems to recognize and go to when they come in. There are also some patrons who ask that she go into her cage when they come in, and she is very cooperative about this.

An article about Dickens along with her picture appeared in the *Traverse City Record Eagle* last year after a roving reporter dropped in to the library. News about her is often found in the library newsletter as well. In addition to her PR skills, she is a big help at story hours, sitting on the books as they are being read and offering opportunities to advise the children that they shouldn't ever eat the library books like Dickens is trying to!



Dickens, the Helena Township Public Library Bird

Potterville Benton Township District Library

by Nancy Schafer, Assistant Librarian

The Potterville Benton Township District Library has a wonderful dog named Shadow (a Daisy Dog) who comes to visit the library at least once a week. He loves visiting with the children, and he gets his feelings hurt if people don't stop and talk to him! We also have a neighborhood dog named Zinger (a golden retriever) who comes to visit about once a week. Zinger keeps a baseball at the library to play with when he comes! His "grandparents" even purchased a plaque on our Growing Tree that reads "Zinger-Library Dog."

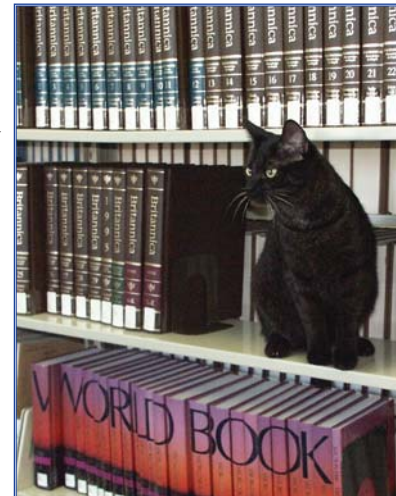
Both of the dogs are very well behaved, and we get lots of good comments from our patrons!

Jackson District Library

by Ray Lennard, Outreach Librarian

Jackson District Library has a resident library cat that was adopted by the Carnegie Branch of the JDL in June 2001, after being rescued from a plastic bag in the front of the building. With the permission of the former director, Bescye Burnett, the kitten was given a home. After a clean bill of health from the veterinarian and an estimate of age, a name and birthday were needed. Money to build the Carnegie building had been given to Jackson City by Andrew Carnegie on March 18, 1901. Therefore the kitten was named Andrew Carnegie, Jr. with a birthday of March 18, 2001. He is called Andrew (we decided Andrew Carnegie was probably never called "Andy"), and he lives in the work area of the basement under the responsibility of the reference department and the Carnegie staff. Staff and patrons donate money for his care, and Andrew eats for free, as a local pet store donated food.

Andrew is a large black striped tiger with golden eyes, weighs 13 pounds, and has very long legs and large ears. He is very energetic, full of mischief, and definitely controls his life in the library - he tells us when he has had enough. Andrew visits



Andrew Carnegie, Jr., Carnegie Branch of the Jackson District Library

some of the children's programs, has been featured in the local newspaper, and is visited by his fans by request.

During the week, Andrew roams the building as soon as the first staff person arrives until the library opens to the public. Andrew visits the staff, watches the pigeons outside the upper floor windows and investigates all corners of the library. When the time for opening nears, a can of "cookies" (cat treats) is shaken and Andrew comes running. Every weekend or holiday, Andrew goes home with a staff person. When his bed, food and toys are packed, Andrew is eager to climb into his travel crate for his weekend adventure.

On March 18, 2002, Andrew had his first birthday party with the public invited. There was a buffet luncheon with Andrew's favorite items: ham, turkey, tuna fish and green salad. In addition, bread, condiments, beverages, cake and ice cream fed the guests. The local newspaper came, patrons brought presents and Andrew enjoyed his day.

Andrew is a pleasant addition to our library. We hope to have him for many years. The staff enjoys his impish playfulness and even his occasional escape attempts. Even staff with allergies to cats enjoy Andrew, without touching him of course! Since he does not wander around during open hours, there has been no problem with the public. Our sometimes-feisty feline adds the spice of life to our old Victorian building, making his life and ours more pleasant.

You can find a Web site devoted to library cats in the United States at www.ironfrog.com.

Livonia Public Library Sandburg Branch

by Dottie Sogoian, Children's Librarian

In Livonia we use lots of animal programs in our libraries. This past summer we had Dan Briere's Creature Features, the local K-9 dog from our police department, birds and a pet show. I've also been looking into the Sheriff Department's mounted division and Paws with a Cause for future years.

The bird show features pet parrots of all sizes that members bring to the libraries as their schedules permit, so each building each year is different. We (I'm a member of the club) tell the children where the bird is found in the wild, its name and age and how long it will likely live, plus any other questions they might have on any of the

birds. We show what kinds of food they eat and what tricks they do. At the end, there are a couple of birds we take around for each child that wants to have the bird step up on his/her arm and back off again. This program has been quite popular at all three buildings for the past 3-4 years that we've been doing it. We ask for donations to help fund our rescue program, with a suggested minimum of \$100, which makes this a very affordable program for limited budgets. For more information on booking this program, contact Mary Wieske at 734-326-0720 or mdw0123@aol.com. I can answer most questions as well (Dottie Sogoian at 248-893-4010 or sogoian@tln.lib.mi.us).

The past two years I've also had a pet show at my building, which has been popular with the kids. It's open to all children through grade 6 who are enrolled in our summer reading program. Dogs and cats need to have their vaccination receipt submitted at registration, and these are gone over by a local vet/patron for irregularities before the show so missing shots can be gotten. Prizes are donated by two local pet stores, who receive credit on the registration form so participants can tell them thanks for their support. Judging is based on the child telling the breed of their animal, how the child takes care of animal and something about the history of their breed. The animal may do one trick if the child wants. We've had ducks, hamsters and gerbils, in addition to cats and many dogs. The local paper comes out to take pictures.

Escanaba Public Library

by Patricia Fittante, Children's Librarian

It may be the opinion of some that, because of all the high-tech resources and cyber communication, some libraries are going to the dogs. Not so with a public library in Michigan's Upper Peninsula town of Escanaba. The Children's Room at the Escanaba Public Library is soaring!

For more than a decade, young patrons, and not-so-young patrons, who frequent the public library have enjoyed a thirty-gallon aquarium, but the real excitement is generated when eager visitors are greeted by the happy chirping and chattering of three parakeets, Snow White, Little Boy Blue and Rita (Book is her surname). It all started, once upon a time, when the children's librarian, Patricia Fittante visited a local pet store and was intrigued with a totally white parakeet (you guessed it - that's Snow White). Love at first sight. This winged critter just had to come to live in the Children's Room.



An Escanaba Public Library patron visits with one of the library birds

Happy to say, in Escanaba there is a happy young patron who is now the proud owner of twin parakeets.

The perks of taking flight in books!

Lincoln Park Public Library

by Linda T. Baum, Library Director

We have an underwater frog, which lives in a “cube” aquarium at the circulation desk. The cube is a complete ecosystem with a live plant and three snails...there is no filter, etc. We like to point this out to the young people - everything in the cube works together to contribute to a stable environment, the snails being the “vacuum cleaners.”

“Sparky,” the frog, is quite popular with our adult patrons too. Everyone seems to enjoy his presence at the circulation desk.

Livonia Civic Center Library

by Trinidad Abinoja-Turse, Head of Children's Services

Every year, our four children's librarians try to come up with something interesting and ingenious to promote summer reading during our school visits. One year, the theme for Summer Reading Program was “Camp Read,” and we decided to take a snake to the schools. We borrowed one from an experienced animal handler who trains animals for movies and shows. Sam, a three-foot-long rat snake, charmed his way into the hearts of school children. Sam seemed to enjoy his role as “one of the fascinating creatures you may encounter on a camping trip.” And, indeed, you could, as Sam's species is native to the Midwest.

Straw yellow in color, covered with dark brown blotches, these snakes are known to be fast and active. Sam lived up to his reputation. While riding in my car one day (on our way to one of the schools), I discovered that Sam was no longer in his terrarium. He had slipped out and was peering out the passenger window. I had to quickly stop and grab him - to the delight and surprise of numerous onlookers.

We never again used Sam for summer reading promotions, but many of our young patrons remembered him and continued to ask about him for many years after.

After not-too-long a time lapse, Fittante, feeling guilty about leaving Snow White alone on Sundays when the library is closed, decided that Snow White needed company. Another feathered tenant, Rita Book, was adopted. Another time lapse. During the interim, this noble librarian had given her 90-some-year-young uncle a heavenly blue parakeet as a birthday gift, (right again...Little Boy Blue). However, when Uncle Paul took flight himself to the heavens, Fittante had no choice but to bring this third pet to the Children's Room aviary as well. Three strikes and you are out, right?

The conversations among these three winged pals are most interesting. Anything from, “Hi kids,” “Give me a kiss” and “Pretty bird” to “Read a book.” The birds will not respond, however, to “Go Packers!” Fittante has been repeating that chant over and over for two years to no avail. Could it be the birds were bred in Lion country?

The parakeets elicit great enthusiasm and attention not only from the children who frequent the Children's Room, but they also draw an adult audience as well. Many adult patrons wander over to the youthful side of the library just to talk to the birds (or check out all the noise).

Recently Fittante and her assistant, Charlotte Oshe, were offered two more parakeets. At risk of jeopardizing their positions, these two who man the children's area had to refuse the generous offer. However, being the ingenious individuals they are, these librarians resolved the problem for the owner who had to find a new home for Ozzie and Harriet. They ran a contest, “Register to Own Your Very Own Pet Birds.” Cage included. Parental permission REQUIRED.



Kent District Library's “Love Your Library - Love Your Pets” 2003 Calendar

by John VanValkenburg, Public Relations Manager, Kent District Library

Earlier this year Kent District Library (KDL) sponsored a “Put Your Pet in Pictures” contest that invited all residents of Kent County to photograph their pet(s) with library materials. KDL received nearly 200 entries, and choosing 13 winners was a challenge.

The winning photos were used to create a “Love Your Library - Love Your Pets” 2003 calendar. Calendars are available for purchase at \$5 per calendar, with all proceeds going to support the Kent District Library Alliance of Friends. As a thank you for purchasing a calendar, there is \$60 in coupons to Pet Supplies Plus inside. The calendars are available at all 18 KDL branches.

The calendar is the second major fundraiser conducted by the Kent District Library Alliance of Friends. Last year almost 2,000 cookbooks were sold to net \$9,500 in profits.

Database of the Month: WorldCat

by Linda Neely, Public Services Librarian, Library of Michigan

WorldCat may well be your library's pet database. This single union catalog includes bibliographic records from OCLC member libraries all over the world, and WorldCat can be used in many ways:

- As an interlibrary loan tool: FirstSearch Direct borrowing is used by many libraries to cut down on data entry by ILL staff. The patron locates a book he wants on WorldCat and either orders it directly—based on loan group parameters set up in administrative mode—or places an order that goes into a review file for the interlibrary loan staff.
- As an aid in finding “that big blue book” your patron wants when the patron cannot remember the title or author: If the

book exists in a library anywhere, you have a good chance of identifying it with WorldCat keyword and subject searching.

- As a collection development tool: Use WorldCat to find new books on topics of interest to your patrons. Check WorldCat to see how many other Michigan libraries own a book you are about to withdraw or a subscription you are about to cancel.
- As a readers advisory aid: Patrons or librarians can use WorldCat to readily identify other books by a favorite author, other books on a popular topic, etc., by clicking on the appropriate heading in the record of a favorite book.
- As a cataloging tool: Member libraries may subscribe to the OCLC cataloging service, which accesses WorldCat for cataloging purposes.

Searching WorldCat: Tips to Make the Cat Purr

The good points about WorldCat:

- Contains over 47 million bibliographic records for all formats of material
- Represents materials that were produced over thousands of years
- Includes records for materials in 400 languages at libraries in 45 countries
- Includes records for ebooks, ejournals and Web links

These may seem like bad points from the standpoint of searchability. With so many records and often many variations of cataloging for the same title, it can be difficult to narrow down your search to retrieve a manageable number of hits. Fortunately, savvy searchers can tame the “Cat” by making full use of the many limiting options on the Advanced Search screen. Year or Language can be used for any search. The “number of libraries” limiter is primarily an interlibrary loan tool to assure that many libraries own the records retrieved. However, limiting any search for a popular title to “500 or more” will readily decrease the number of hits retrieved. A “type” selection will narrow down the result list by format. Three menus of “subtype

limits” allow you to choose an audience (juvenile/not juvenile), content type (fiction, music, etc.) and more narrowly specify a format. The WorldCat default ranking for results lists is by number of libraries owning the item; therefore, you may want to change the “rank” selection to “relevance” or “date” for more targeted results. Also, once you have retrieved a results list, it can be sorted by up to three simultaneous fields using the advanced sort options.

When seeking locations for journals, try using UnionLists alone or along with WorldCat. UnionLists contains the Local Data Record (LDR) for serials records contributed to the OCLC database.¹ To find Michigan locations for a journal, execute a title search in UnionLists and use EWMU for the “group.” Helpful global limitations may be set up in FirstSearch administrative mode. For example, your library may wish to set up WorldCat parameters so that Michigan holding libraries are always displayed first.

The Cat’s Meow: Notable Enhancements

- Evaluative material: OCLC has recently been adding evaluative content to WorldCat bibliographic records for current popular works. You might find the table of contents, cover art, a summary of the book, or even notes about the author in a record for a popular novel. What a boon for selectors and for patrons who remember the cover but not the title of the book they want!
- Virtual material: WorldCat contains records for any Web links cataloged by member libraries as well as thousands of records from electronic book vendors such as netLibrary, Casalini and Iberbook. If the format and material are not copyrighted, the WorldCat link opens to the actual document from any computer.
- Digital Archive: OCLC is now adding links and records for digital material they are being paid to archive. Items eligible for OCLC digital archiving are primarily non-copyrighted government documents that appear on the Web. For example, look up “auto buying” as a title phrase on WorldCat. There are currently two live

hot links for this title: a State of Ohio link, which will become a “dead link” if the state deletes the document from their page, and an OCLC Digital Archive link, which assures future access to the document through WorldCat.

OCLC provides more complete information on these enhancements and the use of limiters at <http://www.oclc.org/firstsearch/about/changes.htm>, and a complete searching guide for WorldCat is available at <http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/searching/guide/combining/>. Now, aren’t you glad you let the Cat into your library?

¹ See page 13 of the August 2002 *Access* for details on how to search UnionLists.

Exotic Pets on the Net at Michigan.gov

*by Tim Watters, Special Collections Cataloger,
Library of Michigan*

Do your patrons want to know if it’s legal to own a Hungarian partridge in Michigan? How about wolf/dog hybrids? It can be difficult to track down such information because of the variety of state and federal agencies involved in regulating animals. Just typing “exotic” into the search engine on Michigan.gov can be a good place to start. You’ll have to separate the pages on exotic pets from the pages on exotic pests, but the Michigan Department of Agriculture has an informational Web site called “Wild or Exotic Animals Not Regulated by DNR or U.S. Department of Interior.” This page will give your patrons an idea of different places to research regulations about their exotic pet. It also lists San Juan rabbits and feral swine as being illegal in Michigan.

Another search method is to click on “State Web Sites” from the Michigan.gov banner and then choose “Natural Resources” from the list of Executive Branch Web sites. Click on “FAQ” for a search box that only searches the DNR’s Frequently Asked Questions. Type in “exotic” here, and you’ll find a link to help answer the question, “What are the restrictions for exotic pets here in Michigan? I cannot find a Web site telling what is allowed and what isn’t.” Another good keyword in this database is just “pets.” The results include questions and answers about pet alligators, pet skunks and general

requirements for holding wildlife in captivity in Michigan.

If you find a good answer (or question), just click on the button near the bottom of the screen to be notified by e-mail if the answer is updated in the future. As of this writing, there were 1672 other frequently asked questions in this database. Many are on potentially hard-to-find topics, such as, "Will the DNR reimburse your deductible on a car deer accident?" "Are there any state beaches where my pet dog may swim?" and "If I buy a fishing license, does my wife need one also?"

MeL's "Best of the Internet" also has an exotic pets category. Just point your browser to MeL.org, click on "Best of the Internet by Subject" and enter "exotic pets" in the "Search MeL" box. (Note: this does not work from the introductory MeL page under the History, Arts & Libraries banner. You have to first go to the MeL subject search box.)

Aside from Michigan.gov, information can also be found on Web sites and in printed materials about individual creatures. At <http://www.sugarlider.net/>, for example, there are state-by-state breakdowns on the laws governing this type of flying marsupial. To find this type of information, use a general search engine such as Google and look for sites run by people who own, breed or sell the animals you are looking for. The Michigan Legislative Service Bureau produced a publication called "Current State Regulations Concerning Permitting and Keeping Wolf Hybrids" in Volume 4, Issue 4 of its Science and Technology Division Backgrounder. You may want to let your patron know that there are a variety of resources on this topic, so they shouldn't limit themselves to just one area.

Trustees Corner

by Dragomir Cosanici, Library Law Specialist, Library of Michigan

9/11 AND PATRON PRIVACY IN THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The tragic events of September 11, 2001, have left us all scarred and a little scared. Since that infamous date, many of us in the library community have been wrestling with issues of

patron privacy and protecting ourselves from threats of future terrorist attacks. So what happens if you suspect a patron of Middle Eastern origin of preparing some unlawful activity based on the choice of books or materials he/she has checked out of your library?

The Michigan Library Privacy Act, Section 3(2), MCL 397.603(2), clearly forbids the disclosure of a patron's library record without a court order. "Library record" is defined in Section 2(i), MCL 397.602(i), of the same statute as a document, record or other method of storing information retained by the library that personally identifies a library patron, including his name, address or telephone number or that identifies a person as having requested or obtained specific materials from a library.

As such, identifying your Middle Eastern patron to law enforcement officials would clearly leave you open to a civil lawsuit from the patron pursuant to Section 4 of the Michigan Library Privacy Act, MCL 397.604. The patron may bring a civil action for actual damages or \$250.00, whichever is greater, in addition to reasonable attorney fees and the costs of bringing the lawsuit.

Clearly, you have a choice between identifying a patron you suspect of preparing to do something illegal based on his/her national origin and selection of reading materials and risking a lawsuit versus not informing law enforcement, which may go against what you believe is the right thing to do. I can't tell you what to do, only that disclosure of such information without a court order takes patron privacy right out of your library doors.

We at the Library of Michigan are diligently working with the American Library Association, its Office of Intellectual Freedom and legal counsel to keep Michigan libraries up to date on any new developments or explanations concerning library patron privacy. Look for more information in *Access* and on the American Library Association's own Web site. Please also watch for announcements on *michlib-l* and from your library cooperatives.



New Native American Heritage Collection at Gladstone Public Library

As recently reported in the *Daily Press*, the Gladstone Public Library has a new Native American Heritage Collection, featuring about 250 books and eye-catching display items such as a preserved badger and a totem pole. "It's a great opportunity for our library to share true and authentic Native American history and tradition with students and surrounding communities," Indian Education Director Jessie Seronko told the *Daily Press*.

Students' requests for Native American research materials sparked the idea for the collection, which was funded in part by donations from MeadWestvaco, parents of students in the Indian Education Program and other personal contributions. "There really is a need for the Native American books, videos, posters, audio tapes and CDs," said Seronko. "We needed accessibility to our collection and the library is well-staffed and very accommodating to the public."

Libraries Remember September 11

Some of the ways that Michigan libraries observed the anniversary of the September 11 tragedy include:

The Oxford Public Library and The Friends of the Bronson Public Library both held special ceremonies dedicating new library flagpoles and landscaping. The Oxford library flagpole features a large rock at the base with a plaque remembering the victims of the terrorist attacks, and the Bronson library flagpole is dedicated Bronson's own unsung heroes – the veterans who fought and died for their country and the city's firefighters and police officers.

The Mackinac Island Public Library hosted a survivor of the World Trade Center attack, George Hessler, who made his way down from the 83rd floor of Tower One and was one of the last to exit the building. Hessler talked about his experience that day and expressed his enormous gratitude for the support the entire country gave to New York City.

The Houghton Lake Public Library created a special "Free to Read" display in remembrance of the terrorist attacks and providing materials on related topics. A Girl Scout troop also held a program and flag retirement ceremony at the library.



Web Site-ings

by Kyle Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Sites About Pets and Their Care

Adopt a Homeless Pet
<http://www.petfinder.org/>

American Animal Hospital Association: Your Link for Healthy Pets
<http://www.healthypet.com/>

American Red Cross: Animal Safety
<http://www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared/animalsafety.html>

American Veterinary Medical Association Presents: Care for Pets
<http://www.avma.org/care4pets/>

ASPCA: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
<http://www.asPCA.org/site/PageServer>

Humane Society of the United States: Promoting the Protection of All Animals

<http://www.hsus.org/ace/352>

Listings of Hotels, Motels, B&Bs, etc. in the U.S. and Canada That Accept Pets

<http://www.petswelcome.com/>

MEL – Links to Pets General Care Information

<http://mel.org/science/petgen.html>

Pet Care Info for DoItYourselfers

<http://doityourself.com/pets/>

Pet of the Day

<http://www.petoftheday.com/>

The Pet Center: The Internet Animal Hospital

<http://www.thepetcenter.com/>

WALTHAM: The Leading Authority on Pet Care and Nutrition

<http://www.waltham.com/>



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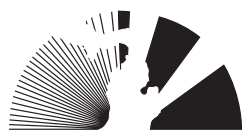
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